

WHAT'S ON



Theatre
Play: Koinya
Troupe: Nityadal
Venue: National Theatre Hall, Shilpakala Academy
Date: April 3



Solo Art Exhibition
Artist: Alakesh Ghosh
Venue: Dhaka Art Centre, H-60, Rd-7/A, Dhanamondi
Date: Mar 29-Apr 7
Time: 3-8pm



Solo Art Exhibition
Title: Pop Wallah
Artist: Jon Den Hartigh
Venue: Bengal Art Lounge, 60, Gulshan Avenue, Circle 1, Dhaka
Date: Mar 29-Apr 7



Solo Art Exhibition
Title: The Body & Soul of the Insignificant
Artist: Tasaddul Hossain Dulu
Venue: Bengal Shilpaya, H-42, Rd-160(New), Dhanamondi
Date: April 2-11, Time: 12pm-8pm



Theatre
Play: Jadur Pradip
Troupe: Swagnadal
Venue: Studio Theatre Hall, Shilpakala Academy
Date: April 5



Photography Exhibition
Title: Bangladesh: My Love
Photographer: Moududul Alam
Venue: Dhaka Art Centre, H-60, Rd-7/A, Dhanamondi
Date: March 29-April 8



Children's Art Exhibition
Title: Shishuraj Sundor
Artist: Drink Gallery, H-58, R-15A (New), Dhanamondi
Date: March 30-April 3
Time: 3pm-8pm



The most glorious episode in Bangladesh's history

Art exhibition

at Bangladesh National Museum



Clockwise (from top): Artworks by Zainul Abedin, Aminul Islam and Qamrul Hassan.

TAKIR HOSSAIN

As part of its 100th anniversary celebration, Bangladesh National Museum (BNM) is hosting an art exhibition on the Liberation War. The exhibition, featuring works of renowned and promising Bangladeshi artists, is now on at Nalini Kanta Bhattachali Gallery of the museum.

Liberation War is the most glorious episode in Bangladesh history. The very existence of the nation is rooted here. Since its inception, the museum has been working to preserve and uphold the history of the country, and generate awareness in various aspects of the war.

Forty-seven works [part of the permanent collection of the museum] of Shilpacharya Zainul Abedin, Patua Qamrul Hassan, Aminul Islam, Abdur Razzaque, Qayyum Chowdhury, Debdas Chakraborty, Hashem Khan, Rafiqun Nabi, Hamiduzzaman Khan, Syed Abdullah Khalid,

Swapan Chowdhury, Shahabuddin Ahmed and Moniruzzaman are on display at the exhibition.

These works highlight realist, photo-realist, abstract, semi-realist, semi-figurative approaches. Mediums used are: oil, watercolour, charcoal, batik, poster colour, black and white drawing, wax tempera, aquatint, etching and sculpture [wood, bronze and cement].

The movements of Zainul Abedin's figures denote aesthetics. In his work, a group of freedom fighters are seen crossing a shallow ditch -- undaunted by the enemy.

Hashem Khan is well recognised for his works on the theme of Liberation War. His compositions and colours are bold and animated. His canvas -- dominated by red, black and white -- is on display at the exhibition.

Aminul Islam prefers to go into details with his striking images, while his figures and glowing colours are thought provoking. In his painting, freedom fighters are seen celebrating victory. The toils of struggle, the drive and the euphoria of achievement pulsate throughout

his paintings.

Abdur Razzaque's work reveals the triumph of a warrior. Uninhibited brush strokes make the canvas remarkable. Azure, red and bright yellow have generated a thrilling experience.

For Swapan Chowdhury, the Liberation War is an inseparable part of identity. He still carries the painful memories. Crimson and black is predominant in his works. In recent times, he has concentrated on Buddhist traditions and cityscapes. Emboss and collages are noticeable techniques in his works. At the exhibition, one of the painter's canvases [acrylic] is adorned with birds. The birds, free in nature, are soaring high in the sky; a crimson sun blazes in the middle of the canvas.

Along with these classics are 53 works by 30 painters. Painters have worked in oil, acrylic, mixed media, print, serigraph, ceramic, iron net, fibreglass, black and white drawing, woodcut, pottery and more.

The exhibition ends on April 10.

Programmes to mark National Film Day

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Elaborate programmes are being held in the capital today to mark National Film Day. Bangladesh Film Development Corporation (BFDC) has chalked out celebrations to mark the

occasion, which will run till April 5.

A movie fair is being held as part of the programmes, while members of the film industry are scheduled to bring out a rally this morning from the BFDC premises. Other programmes include performances of movie songs, confer-

ences and seminars.

Special cultural programmes will also be held in the evenings through the course of the celebrations. The movie fair will showcase products related to the film industry.

BACKSTAGE

THE ART of LIGHTING

In conversation with Wasim Ahmed

SAURAV DEY

Wasim Ahmed has been working with Dhaka Theatre for over a decade. Wasim is a light designer and prefers working backstage. In a recent conversation with The Daily Star (TDS), the theatre activist talked about his work, his views on theatre and more.

How did you step into the sphere of theatre?

Wasim: In my student days I was involved in elocution and working in theatre was my dream. I like to work behind the curtains. Apart from light designing, I have also jointly directed street plays.

Walk us through the process of light designing for a play.

Wasim: At first I go through the script, then take the director's guidelines, observe sequence of movements, moods and try to connect them with reality. My job is to highlight the setting and mood of the play through lighting. Light settings clarify time and atmosphere of an action; it is an integral part of the aesthetics of a play. I have to highlight the outer settings and psychological states of characters through the use of light. I have to adjust light through shifting in accordance with time, place and action. Sometimes, I have to use special effects for the sake of situations and characters.

How does light design here compare with that in the West?

Wasim: We are doing quite well despite our limited resources. We face equipment shortage, while productions in western countries can give extra attention to minute details through use of cutting edge technology. They are also quite obsessed with the technical aspects.

What sort of limitations do you face in designing lights for theatre?

Wasim: The main problems are equipment shortage, inadequate number and unplanned design of theatre venues.



Sometimes we have to make compromises due to these inadequacies.

What do you think needs to be done about these issues?

Wasim: There is no institution for technical education in theatre. As a result, no one can take a course on light/sound and other technical aspects. If the government establishes a dedicated institution for theatre and its technical sides, it will help us immensely and the standard of our theatre productions would improve by leaps and bounds. In addition, it is necessary to prioritise the technical side, along with architectural side, in the construction of new auditoriums.

What's your suggestion for newcomers who want to work on the technical side?

Wasim: Even though young theatre activists are interested in working in the technical sector, they are opting out very soon. Theatre needs specialised technicians and if newcomers do not step up, our productions will fall behind. You cannot stage a play only with the actors moving about on the stage, the crew and technicians are equally important.

Runa Laila to receive 'Sangeet Maha Samman'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Runa Laila, whose magical voice has crossed the borders of Bangladesh and mesmerised audiences of the subcontinent for years, will soon be honoured by the West Bengal Government (India) with the prestigious 'Sangeet Maha Samman' title for her contribution to music.

The award will be conferred on her on April 6 at the Netaji Indoor Stadium in Kolkata, on the opening day of the eight-day 'Bangla Sangeet Mela-2013', a letter from the office of the Chief Minister of West Bengal read.

The invitation terms Runa Laila as a "celebrated artiste" whose music has reached the hearts of the people of Bangladesh, India and Pakistan. Her songs containing folk flavours have undying appeal to Bengalis everywhere, the letter adds.

"I'm delighted that the West Bengal Government is conferring this honour on me, and I think it's a great honour for Bangladesh as well," Runa Laila told Star Arts & Entertainment.

The artiste has an illustrious career spanning four decades. Apart from albums, she has been hugely successful in playback singing -- in India and Bangladesh. She has received numerous awards all across the subcontinent, including four National Film Awards.

Runa Laila has recently been busy with judging the talent hunt, "Power Voice 2012".



PHOTO: STAR

Spelling Bee goes on air today



A participant takes on the spelling challenge.

MOYUKH MAHTAB

The TV rounds of The Daily Star Spelling Bee competition will start airing from today on Channel i. The competition, which started across the country in February with the school rounds, is now down to its final stages. The show will be aired every Wednesday and Thursday on Channel i at 7:50pm.

The first four episodes of the show will feature three schools visited by the Champs-21 team during the school rounds and one segment from the zone rounds. After that, the show will be moving on to the divisional rounds and continue to the finals, where contestants will compete for the title of 2nd Spelling Bee Champion.

The competition, which started with hundreds of schools participating and thousands of students playing the online rounds, is now down to 72 participants who have qualified from the divisional rounds to participate in the TV rounds. Over two lakh students participated in this year's Spelling Bee competition.

Champs 21, the first e-learning portal from Bangladesh, is organising the Spelling Bee. For more information visit champs21.com.

Cultural programmes in Pabna

Various organisations observe Independence Day

AHMED HUMAYUN KABIR TOPU, Pabna

Several cultural organisations arranged programmes to observe Independence Day in Pabna. The programmes sought to kindle the spirit of the Liberation War and convey a message demanding maximum punishment for war criminals.

Pabna Drama Circle, a leading cultural organisation of the district, observed a daylong programme on the occasion. On March 25, theatre artistes, along with cultural activists held a candlelight vigil to observe March 25, one of the darkest chapter in the country's history. The artistes placed wreaths at Durjoy Pabna, the town's Liberation War memorial, the next day. A discussion and cultural programme were also held at the organisation premises marking the occasion.

Sammilito Sangskritik Jote (Pabna) observed a two-day Independence Day Festival at the Pabna Town Hall premises. Vice president of the Jote, Abdul Hai Al Hadi, chaired the programme, while president of Uchichi Shilpi Goshthi, Bijon Krishna Mridha; secretary Biplob Bhattacharya; president of Theater-77 Kobad Ali; journalist Utpal Mirza spoke on the occasion. The speakers demanded maximum punishment for war criminals. Later, artistes of Manobadhikar Natya Parishad staged 'Bichhuto', a play based on the Liberation War.

Meanwhile, Pabna University of Science and Technology observed daylong programmes. A cultural programme was held at the university campus marking the occasion. Earlier, a discussion was held, chaired by Vice Chancellor of the university Professor Mozaffar Hossain. Students of the university also staged a play titled 'Feri Wala' focusing on the spirit of the Liberation War.

Pabna district administration organised a painting and cultural competition to mark Independence Day as well.



SHAH ALAM SHAZU

Badhon's [of 'Close Up 1' fame] debut solo album "Ichehe Brishti", released by Gaanchil in 2008, was greeted by positive feedback from music lovers. After a five year hiatus, Badhon has come up with her second album "Orothor Bhalobasha". The young singer is excited with her latest project, released under the banner of Sangeeta.

Badhon said, "I did my graduation from BUET's Civil Engineering department, and started a new job. The busy schedule -- between studying and working -- didn't allow me the time needed to make an album."

Asked if she continued her revaz, Badhon assured that she had not stopped grooming her voice, practising regularly at her own pace.

On her new album "Orothor Bhalobasha", which has 10 Adhunik songs and a Nazrul Sangeet, Badhon said, "Three of the songs are duets. I tried to make the album in my own way and give the listeners some good songs. I hope they will enjoy the album."

Her 'Close Up 1' comrades -- Kishore, Muhin and Sabbir -- have done the duets with her. Music for the album has been composed and directed by Partha Barua, Abid Rony, Shihab Ripon, Sajib, Kishore and Sabbir. Badhon herself wrote the songs for the album, along with lyricists Jahid Akbar, Mahmud Manzur and Robiul Islam Jibon.

Asked about her aspirations on the music front, Badhon answered: "I have a lot of dreams surrounding my music. I want to capture the hearts of listeners with my songs."

Badhon has been singing for many years now, but got her first taste of the limelight through 'Close Up 1'. Answering a query, the singer expressed the hope that she would be able to continue her journey in the realm of music.

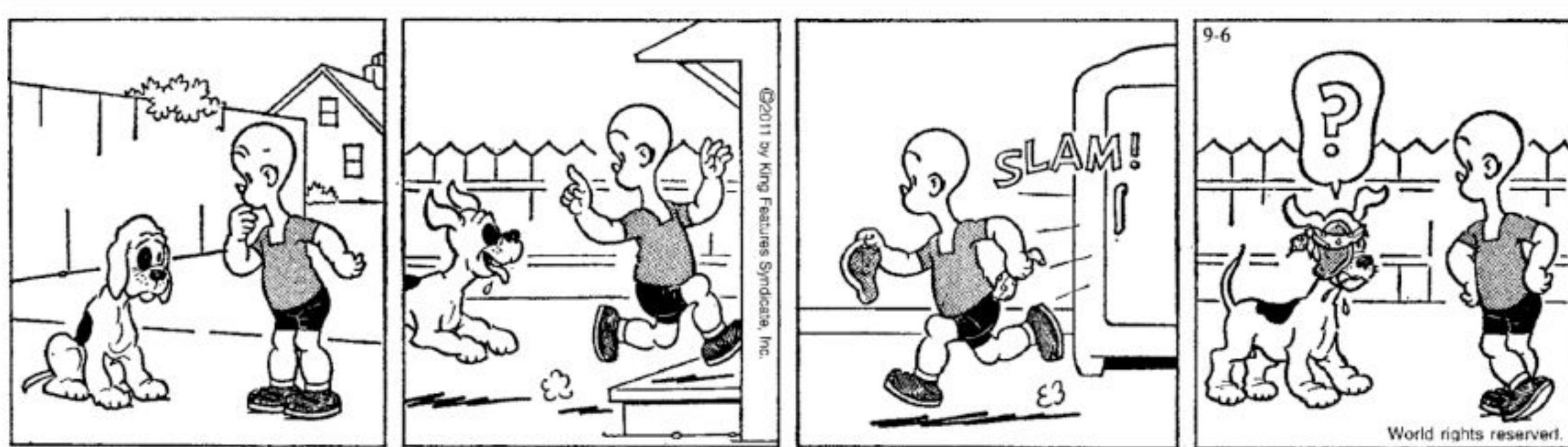
Beetle Baily

by Mort Walker



Henry

by Don Trachte



Maroon 5 launches summer tour, writes for new album



PHOTO: MTV.COM

Maroon 5's stage act is of an energetic brand; fans will certainly look forward to the outdoor gigs of the coming tour.

AP, New York

Maroon 5 says they're working on a new album, but before that the pop-rockers will launch a summer tour that finds the fivesome playing outdoors.

The Grammy-winning band announced Monday that they will headline the 2013 Honda Civic Tour, which kicks off August 1 in St. Louis and will feature Kelly Clarkson.

"I think the live outdoor kind of summer vibe is always different than the indoor arena tour because there's less emphasis on production and more on live music," frontman Adam Levine said in an interview. "It's kind of the purist form of a tour 'cause there's not too many bells and whistles."

The 31-date tour wraps October 5 in San Diego.

Levine says he and his bandmates are riding high off the success of last year's "Overexposed," their fourth album that has achieved platinum status. It features the popular hits "Payphone," "One More Night" and "Daylight."

"It's so amazing to have an album people

connect with and embrace. It's a dream come true. It's hard to believe to have lighting strike twice and three times and four times," he said. "We're having a moment. A good moment."

He also says the group is working on the follow-up to that album: "We're just getting started. We've got some great songs in the can."

"The stuff we're working on now, it definitely has gone maybe a little darker in its sound, maybe back a little bit more to what we kind of did on [our debut] 'Songs About Jane,'" said guitarist James Valentine. "But at this point we do have all kinds of different songs and it is early."

Levine is also busy balancing his life with NBC's "The Voice," which returned last week with new coaches Shakira and Usher, alongside Blake Shelton.

"It's great. Sometimes it's difficult to maneuver, but it's been a lot of success," said Levine, who will have his former mentee, Tony Lucca, open on some dates of the tour. "I'd be pretty foolish not to be happy about it."

ATN BANGLA		03:00	Gaan R Gaan
04:20	Showbiz World	06:30	Duree Janal
08:00	Drama Serial: Progga	07:45	Drama Serial: Saatkahan
	Parmita	09:45	Concert for Victory
08:40	Drama Serial: Chupi	Maasranga Television	
	Chupi	10:02	Bangla Feature Film
10:55	Bibeker Kache Proshno	06:30	Binodan Sharanin
CHANNEL i		08:00	Drama Serial:
11:05	Amader Chalachitra		Mumbasha
	Protyasha O Papi	11:30	Music Digest
03:05	Tele-film	CHANNEL 9	
07:50	Spelling Bee	09:00	Bangla Feature Film
11:30	Shel Gaan Shel Shur	02:30	Bangla Feature Film
ntv		06:45	Power Voice
11:00	Biz Time	08:30	IPL 6
04:10	Janar Achhey Bolaar	Gtv	
	Achhey	11:30	Bangla Feature Film
08:15	Roshuighar	06:30	Purano Shel Diner Kotah
09:00	Je Gaan Gourbey	09:05	Crime Fiction
	Bahman	09:35	Harmony
ETV		Fox Movies	
11:30	Ekushey-er Business	03:10	Underworld: Rise of the
07:50	Fashion and Tune		Lycans
09:30	Drama Serial: Sukhe	04:45	When a Stranger Calls
	Thakle Bhute Kilai	07:00	Alvin and the
10:10	Docu-drama: Charge		Chipmunks:

Langorkhana
On Banglavisian at 08:15pm
Drama Serial
Cast: Subarna Mustafa, Jitu Ahsan

Contagion
On HBO at 09:30pm
Genre: Drama / Thriller
Cast: Matt Damon, Kate Winslet & Jude Law

Power Voice
On CHANNEL 9 at 06:45pm
Musical Talent Hunt
Judges: Runa Laila, Bappa Majumdar & Imon Shaha

Sheet Report	Chipwrecked
Boishakhi TV	John Carter
10:45	10:45
04:00	This Means War
08:00	
08:35	Bangla Feature Film
	Shovonir Doctor
08:35	Drama Serial: Bombarir
	Chhoti Bou
08:35	Glamour Guide
01:05	Bangla Feature Film
06:25	Front Line
09:05	Drama Serial: A-er Golpo
11:25	Music Club
Rtv	
12:35	Bangla Feature Film
06:00	Drama Serial: Shwapno
	London
09:05	Drama Serial: Rum
09:50	Drama Serial: Eti
	Dulabhai
Desh TV	
	10:30
	Swamp Wars

ATN BANGLA	09:20pm	Ognipath
09:20pm	To To Company	
CHANNEL i	11:30pm	Roshni
11:30pm	Shunno Shomikaran	
ntv	09:45pm	Bhmraddah College
09:45pm	Bhmraddah College	
ETV	08:20pm	Boishakhi TV
08:20pm		

BTV	News (Bangla) at 12pm, 2pm, 5pm, 8pm.	Boishakhi TV	News (Bangla) at 10am, 2pm, 7pm.
	News (English) at 10am, 4pm, 10pm.		News (English) at 9am, 6pm.
ATN BANGLA	News (Bangla) at 11am, 12pm, 2pm, 7pm, 10pm.		News (English) at 1pm, 3pm, 6pm, 9pm.
CHANNEL i	News (Bangla) at 2pm, 9pm.		News (Bangla) at 10am, 2pm, 7:30pm, 10:30pm.
ntv	News (Bangla) at 2pm, 7:30pm, 10:30pm.		News (English) at 1pm, 3pm, 6pm, 9pm.
News (Bangla) at 2pm, 7:30pm, 10:30pm.			News (Bangla) at 2pm, 7pm, 9pm, 11pm.
ETV	News (Bangla) at 1pm, 3pm, 5pm, 7pm, 9pm, 11pm.		News (Bangla) at 10am, 2pm, 7pm, 9pm, 11pm.
Boishakhi TV			News (Bangla) at 10am, 2pm, 7pm, 9pm, 11pm.

ATN BANGLA	12:30am	Boat
12:30am	Boat	
01:00am	Ondocidri	
01:00am	Ondocidri	
09:45am	Trinito Matra	
12:30pm	Tarika Kathon	
ntv	12:30pm	
12:30pm	El Shomoy	
ETV	12:05am	
12:05am	Ekushey-er	